

John W. Wilson collection

S1413

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April 13, 2015

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts
140 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204
317-232-3671

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Summary Information

Repository	Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Dunn, Caroline
Title	John W. Wilson collection
Date	1766-1960
Extent	0.01 Cubic feet 1 folder
Language	English
Text [Folder]	S1413

Preferred Citation

John W. Wilson collection, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

Biographical Note

John W. Wilson was 93 years old in 1930 and living in Albion, Indiana, with his granddaughter, Clara Zumbaugh. He was the son of Samuel Wilson (September 13, 1766-July 31, 1854) known as the original Uncle Sam, symbol of the federal government.

Scope and Contents

This collection includes eight typed pages about John W. Wilson, son of the original Uncle Sam. The material was compiled by Caroline Dunn, in April 1960, in connection with an article by Mrs. Floyd Shively and a query from Mrs. J. Q. Adams to H. H. Hawkins. Ms. Dunn typed information from various sources about Samuel Wilson (born September 13, 1766; died July 31, 1854; buried in Troy, New York), from whom we get the use of Uncle Sam in reference to the United States. Sam Wilson was a meat packer in Troy, New York, during the War of 1812, and his beef was called: Uncle Sam's. Thus, the story began for personifying the government with a man's name.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged as the manuscript pages are numbered.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a records donation from, perhaps, Caroline Dunn, about April 1960.

Accruals

No further additions are expected.

Processing Information

Collection processing and finding aid completed 2015/04/09 by Nikki Stoddard Schofield.

Controlled Access Headings

Personal Name(s)

- Uncle Sam
- Wilson, John W.
- Wilson, Samuel, 1766-1854

Subject(s)

- Biography